

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheet makes changes to Fig. 11B and replaces the original sheet with Figs. 11A and 11B.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-3, 5-10, 13, 15 and 19-23 are amended. Claims 24-29 are added. Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 12 and 17 contain allowable subject matter.

Applicant appreciates the courtesies shown to Applicant's representatives by Examiner Fidler in the June 18, 2008 personal interview. Applicant's separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10-14 and 19-23 continue to read on the elected species and claims 1 and 10 are generic to non-elected claims 3, 6, 9, 15, 16 and 18. Rejoinder of claims 3, 6, 9, 15, 16 and 18 is requested when claims 1 and 10 are found allowable. New claims 24-29 also read on the elected species.

The title was objected to and has been amended as suggested in the Office Action. It is respectfully requested that the objection be withdrawn.

Claims 2, 7, 8, 20 and 22 were objected to for informalities. Claims 2, 7, 8, 20 and 22 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's helpful comments. It is respectfully requested that the objections be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 5, 7, 8, 22 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Kelley et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,663,302 B2. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 calls for, and similarly in claim 22, at least one adjusting device which moves, relative to the main body, the supporting point of at least one first supporting portion of the supporting portions in a moving direction substantially perpendicular to the recording surface of the recording head, without moving the supporting point of at least one second supporting portion of the supporting portions (emphasis added).

As agreed to during the personal interview, Kelley fails to disclose the above features because Kelley discloses an apparatus for adjusting, to different selectable values, a

printhead-to-media spacing in a printer having a frame and a carriage (see Abstract). Fig. 1 shows four recording heads 16, 18, 20, 22 and a carriage 24 supporting the recording heads, and Figs. 3 and 4 show that the carriage is rotatable about a guide bar 28 to adjust the printhead-to-media spacing to selectable values S1 and S2. That is, Kelley discloses the recording head moved as a unit with the carriage, and fails to disclose moving the recording head relative to the main body. Claims 5, 7, 8, and 23 depend from and are patentable with independent claims 1 and 22, as well as for the additional features they recite. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 2, 4 and 19-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kelley in view of Yamaguchi et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,554,394 B1. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 19 calls for an adjusting device which moves relative to the main body, the supporting point of at least one first supporting portion of the supporting portions in a moving direction substantially perpendicular to the recording surface of the recording head, without moving the supporting point of at least one second supporting portion of the supporting portions.

As noted above, Kelley discloses a recording head moved as a unit with the carriage, not moving relative to the main body of the carriage. As agreed to during the personal interview, Yamaguchi fails to overcome the deficiencies of Kelley. Yamaguchi only discloses a carriage for carrying a liquid ejecting head unit, and does not disclose a moving direction relative to the main body of the carriage. Claims 2, 4, 20 and 21 depend from and are patentable with independent claims 1 and 19, as well as for the additional features they recite. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 10, 11, 13 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Lim, U.S. Patent No. 6,644,765 B2, in view of Numata et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,870,114. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

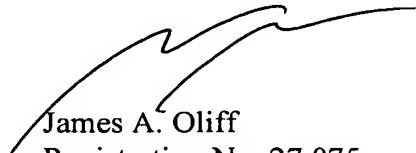
Claim 10 calls for at least one adjusting device which moves, relative to the main body, the supporting point of at least one adjustable supporting portion of the supporting portions in a moving direction substantially perpendicular to the recording surface of the recording head, the supporting portions further comprising at least one stationary supporting portion whose supporting point is stationary.

As agreed to during the personal interview, Lim teaches moving the recording head 41' in a direction parallel to a recording surface 41a' (see col. 4, lines 31-34 and Fig. 6), which is contrary to the "substantially perpendicular to the recording surface" as called for in claim 10. Numata fails to overcome the deficiencies of Lim. Numata teaches a printer capable of feeding a sheet in multiple directions, not adjustable supporting portions. Claims 11, 13 and 14 depend from and are patentable with independent claim 10, as well as for the additional features they recite. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:SDJ/eks

Attachments:
Amendment Transmittal
Replacement Sheet

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